WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

No. 139 — With which is incorporated The International Socialist Review for Australasia. — SYDNEY : DECEMBER 21, 1912 — Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney, for transmission by post as a Newspaper. — PRICE, ONE PENNY.

Where is the Flag of England ?

BY HENRY LABOUCHERE.

And the winds of the world made answer,
North, south, and east and west:
Wherever there's wealth to covet,
Or land that can be possessed ;
Wherever are savage races
To cozen, coerce and scare,
Ye shall find the vaunted ensign ;
For the English flag is there.

Aye, it waves o'er the blazing hovels
Whence African victims fly,
To be shot by explosive bullets
Or to wretchedly starve and die !
And where the beach-comber harries
Isles of the Southern Sea,
At the peak of his hellish vessel
'Tis the English flag flies free.

The Maori full oft hath cursed it,
With his bitterest dying breath ;
And the Arab has hissed his hatred
As he spat at its folds in death.
The hapless fellah has feared it
On Tel-el-Kebir's parched plain,
And the Zulu's blood has dyed it
With a deep, indellible stain.

It has floated o'er scenes of pillage,
It has flaunted o'er deeds of shame ;
It has waved o'er the fell marauder
As he ravished with sword and flame.
It has looked upon ruthless slaughter,
At massacre dire and grim ;
It has heard the shrieks of the victim-
Drown even the jingo hymn.

Where is the flag of England ?
Seek the land where the natives rot ;
Where decay and assured extinction
Must soon be the people's lot.
Go ! search for the once glad island-
Where disease and death are rife,
And the greed of a callous commerce
Now battens on human life !

Where is the flag of England ?
Go sail where rich galleons come
With shoddy and "loaded" cottons,
And Beer and Bibles and rum ;
Go, too, where brute force has triumphed
And hypocrisy made its lair ;
And your question will find an answer,
For the flag of England is there !

The Passing Show.

Reforms never come from the ruling class.

The nations that depended on men in high places, and waited for them to make the world a better place to live in, waited in vain. They are either dead or dying.

"Put not your trust in princes," politicians, and leaders, for they oppose every effort to give justice to the working class.

The cause of all our troubles with the master class is that the workers have unbounded faith in those who "lead" them. Instead of thinking as well as working, they work without thinking with the result that those whom they trust to think for them enslave and live upon them.

The working class of Australia leave it to the Labour leaders to do their thinking, with the result that they are working to pay rent, interest, and profit. They contend that they are not slaves—they are the freest people in the world. All they make over and above their keep goes to the lords who hold the bonds, but they are not in bondage! Of course not.

The Labour Government of New South Wales is negotiating for another loan of £3,000,000. The bondholders will hold the bonds and draw interest, which is a disguise to get the labour of others without giving a due return.

The Labour voter clothes himself in shoddy, lives in a hovel not fit for the rich man's horse, and whoops for the party which is pawning him to the money-lender. The poor fellow can only see the side his mental trainers allow him to see. He refuses to see the side this paper shows him.

Both Labour and Liberal parties are in favour of reform, but their reforms mainly consist in reforming the wealth produced out of the hands of the workers into the hands of their masters. Both parties work to perpetuate a system under which the workers join Labour and Liberal parties and vote the same ticket as the rich. They seem to think that their mission in life is to bear, rear, clothe, educate, and pay servants for the rich. They get mad when a Socialist tells them that they should work for themselves.

Prices are still going up, but it matters little to the ruling class. Politicians can raise their own salaries, and fishing is good; golfing, bowls, and racing are also good pastimes, while motoring is delightful. What does it matter to rulers if famine prices are reached! They can hold high carnival, as monarchs always have done, while the people who feed and clothe them perish for want of necessaries.

What it is Coming to.

At present the Conscript Boys ars being flogged with canes—the cane is the forerunner of the Cat.

The capitalist press is still hiding the result of the Socialist vote in the American Presidential election. They don't want the people to know that Debs doubled his vote in four years, and that he polled well on to 900,000.

The faith of Socialists is a perpetual cause of astonishment to the old party politicians. They don't realise the causes that are behind the movement and so are utterly unable to understand why the growth of Socialism is inevitable and cannot be turned aside. Accustomed, as they are, to look at all work from a commercial point of view, they cannot understand men and women who write, edit, publish newspapers, and deliver addresses with no regard for remuneration as it is commonly represented by money. The commercial instinct impels the ordinary individual to ask "how much does he get for his work? If the reply is "Nothing," the statement is received with a stare of incredulity, yet it is a fact that much, if not most, of the propaganda work done for Socialism is done not for monetary reward, but for the intellectual pleasure there is in the doing of it.

The principles of the Australian Labour Party vary according to geographical distribution, that is, if we may judge by the way the party handles the same principles in different localities and states. In N.S. Wales Parliament, Beeby's Industrial Disputes Act was supported by the Labour party in power. In South Australian Parliament the Labour party, which is in opposition, voted against the same provisions because they were introduced by the Liberals. A Labourite leaving N.S. Wales and settling in South Australia, would have to leave his political platform behind and secure a new one when he arrived in Adelaide. What he fought for in N.S. Wales he would have to rave against in South Australia.

Lady Stout, wife of Chief Justice Stout, of New Zealand, told a Sydney "Telegraph" interviewer that she believed in the militant methods of British Suffragettes. She She says, "What else can they do? It is the only way they can get prominence in the press. For instance, we had an enormous meeting, at which £10,500 was collected, and the press only gave us a few lines, whereas when a sixpenny window was smashed we got two paragraphs." She further says that numbers of most prominent people are militants who believe in drastic methods. "Nothing short of a shock will rouse English people from their apathy," says Lady Stout. "You no doubt have noticed how they walk along the street, in one groove as it were, never looking to the right or left of them, and observing nothing. They badly need rousing." And to rouse the British the "prominent people" are adopting militant methods—smashing windows and burning letters. When Socialists or Syndicatists adopt such methods the press calls them sabotage.

Rev. James Green, speaking at a recent Evangelical Council, said: "It is a wicked thing to say that Compulsory training is Conscription." If that is the opinion of militarists, we may expect that several standard dictionaries will be compelled to alter their definition when the warmongers get the upper hand. There is a general agreement amongst lexicographers that "Conscription is compulsory enrolment for naval or military service, the obtaining recruits by compulsion." Rev. Green is evidently ashamed of the name Conscription, and would ban those who use it by denouncing them as wicked, but is he honest in doing so? The advocates of Conscription in Britain issued a book entitled "The Briton's First Duty, the Case for Conscription." When they saw what damage was done by such a candid title, they withdrew it, and substituted "Universal Training" for "Conscription," and Lord Roberts, at Manchester, said he "was always and altogether opposed to Conscription." Militarists have found that Conscription is repugnant to the modern Britisher, and are endeavouring to fasten it upon him in another name.

The Union Jack is used in an amusing way sometimes. Last week Labour Premier McGowen used it with good effect against a little crowd of raving, loyalist patriots, the occasion being the official opening of Government House grounds, where the Governor General used to reside and regale the snobocracy. The latter have been wrathfully rampaging through the country lately, howling about the "eviction of the Governor-General," the "disloyalty to the King," and other villainies of the Labour Government, with the object of discrediting the opponents of Liberalism, and they turned up in force at the official opening of Government House grounds with the intention of furiously demonstrating their loyalty. They raved while "Premier Jim" was speaking, and McGowen failing to get a hearing, and knowing the doping influence of the "flag" and "God Save," waved a miniature Union Jack and led off with "God Save," just the thing that the loyal patriots were waiting a chance to do. They were so astonished that they forgot to take their hats off and were in danger of being scalped for disloyalty when the police came to their rescue. The crowd is dangerous when the Jack is waved to the strains of "God Save."

Christmas.

(By Ajax.)

As the old year wanes Christmas festivities and all that they imply loom large in the popular mind. On this day it is customary for men attired in clownish costumes to deliver from plush pulpits carefully prepared sermons centred round the life and miraculous birth of a seer born 1912 years ago. The shining angels under almost similar circumstances heralded with joy-song the nativity of Buddha some 660 years previously; just as they are alleged to have done at the berth of other saviours. Even if Jesus lived and preached, it is quite certain orthodoxy has found it convenient to forget the economic righteousness of Christ's teaching, and to-day has degenerated into a class church from which the spirit of true righteousness has long since departed.

Through the long ages of slavery and oppression humanity has been buoyed up with the hope of a redeemer, Priests cunningly taking advantage of this fact have assiduously preached the dream of a personal saviour, while taking care to down any man who shows the slightest ability to lead the masses out of bondage. Thus the seed of superstition is sown, and we see that after centuries of failure priests prate the age-worn platitudes and exhort the poor to take their sorrows to the Lord in prayer. But the religious legends and quaint customs formally interwoven with Yuletide are fast vanishing, and this festival has become rather a business holiday than a religious ceremony.

Indigestible edibles and adulterated drinks and presents find a ready market just as they did when December 25 was a pagan feast in ancient Rome. Then the slaves fought in the arena for the amusement of their masters on this day. To-day the capitalist finds it better policy "to knock off some hands," turn them out to feed with the cattle so that being refreshed with a holiday on no pay, they will come back to work with renewed vigour, having had time to ponder over the words of the priest: "Peace and Goodwill to all men." In order that this Christian ceremony may be fittingly celebrated, it is essential that millions of animals and birds must be slaughtered. Must have a bloody sacrifice of some sort! Turkeys are nailed to the ground and over fed. This religious ceremony would not be consumated properly unless a large quantity of geese were murdered. This bird was formerly said to be blessed by the indwelling of the Holy Ghost, therefore it is in keeping with this superstitious season that good Christians make themselves sick gorging the blessed bird. This makes work for the doctor, the undertaker, and even the tombstone maker. It's all good for business or the vampire called Trade.

A good deal of hypocritical sentimentality and ostentation is indulged in by Charity mongers on this occasion. Capitalistic Christianity doles out to paupers Christmas food. The press wallow in the details of these so-called banquets, for these repasts represent the "glad tidings of great joy" for which the poor are expected to be truly thankful, that is, be thankful that here is so much poverty in the midst of plenty.

Doubtless there will be balls and festivities in gabore for the upper ten, at which politicians (alleged representatives of the people) will drink the King's health and exchange the usual conventionalities.

At this social season it is well to think socially. Let the proletariat ask themselves are their class any better off than they were last year? Why the empty chair where a fond relative used to sit is vacant? He has been forced to emigrate to live? Why does sickness haunt the hearth and poverty hover round the door. What has politics done for them? Has the Church helped them? Has any section of the ruling class that are now holding high revelry bettered their position? Where not even the pauper puddings given for an economic motive?

One does not care to be a death's head at a feast, but when we analyse this bell ringing, bible banging, goose gormandising, charity mongering, and conservatism, not to mention the fearful hypocrisy and sickly slobber, we cannot ignore the fact that "Peace and Goodwill" is for the most part a ghostly mockery.

The people are faced with the fact that the "Glad New Year" probably means another term of toil, want, woe. A year when the hope of redemption by political and religious saviours will become a desecrated delusion and the fact become painfully evident that "Their own ignorance is the enemy that oppresses them." Once they realize this fact the superstitions of Christmas will fade away remembered only as the echo of a dismal past, and we shall, as truth conquers ignorance and reason supplants prejudice, gather hope that the world will reach out for a new era of economic salvation, when Christmas will not only in name, but in reality, signify "Peace and Goodwill to all Men."

National Library of Australia http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page12366771

The International Socialist

Journal of Revolutionary Socialism and Industrial Unionism.

Owned and controlled by the International Socialists. - -

Subscription: Australia, 4s per year, 1s per quarter. Postage added to other countries.

O. W. JORGENSEN, Manager.

Office: 115 GOULBURN STREET, SYDNEY.

A Blue Mark through this paragraph indicates that YOUR SUBSCRIPTION WILL EXPIRE WITH NEXT ISSUE.

A Red Mark indicates that your Subscription must be renewed AT ONCE, if you desire the delivery of the paper to continue.

The capitalists could not defeat the workers, not they! The workers always defeated themselves by either their lack of unity, or because they had faith in the false theories, and thought it to be virtuous to scab upon each other under the name of craft unionism.—Trautman.

Christmas and the Workers.

Christianity Originally an Economic Doctrine.

Salvation after death an invention of the priests and supported by the master class.

Christmas, with its holidays and rejoicings, is ever welcome. To many it is a time of pleasure parties, picnics, feasts, harbor trips, country visits, re-union of relatives and friends, and general merry-making. To religious teachers it is an occasion to speak of peace on earth, to remind the multitude of warring factions that some 2000 years ago a "Prince of Peace" was born, whose watchword was "Peace on Earth, and Goodwill towards Men."

To the merry-makers and preachers it is a fine and a brave time, but to the few, who look back to beginnings, it is the commemoration of the birth of the universal martyr—the friend of man, the deliverer, the Messiah. In all ages anterior to Christianity, there have been stories of the birth, life, and martyrdom of those who revolted against the conditions of life in their day, and who were done to death by those who were materially interested in the maintenance of such conditions. It is upon such a tragic foundation that Christmas is celebrated.

From Ward's "Ancient Lowly,' and kindred sources, we learn that the early Christian faith was not a matter of spiritual salvation beyond the grave. Hundreds of thousands of workers embraced the new doctrine because it embodied communal property and communal life, and promised emancipation from the brutal slavery and oppression of their day. Thousands of years of slavery had failed to kill the belief in mutual aid, or root out of the human mind the desire for communal life, and the instinct of fraternity and brotherhood, to which the story of Jesus appealed, held those ancient workmen together in defence of their common interests against some of the most awful brutalities ever practised.

The new doctrine was an economic doctrine of the workers. The Kingdom of Heaven was within themselves, in their own hands, and within their reach, would they but recognise their common interests, and common brotherhood. The priests and rulers failing to stay the growth of the idea, which had its roots deep in the economic conditions of the time, incorporated into the economic programme of the workers the promise of the salvation of souls after death as a recompense for the tortures of slavery endured through life.

The master-class seized the priestly interpretation of spiritual salvation thus grafted on to Christianity, and with hordes of hireling assassins, recruited from the ranks of the enslaved class itself, made war upon the economic doctrine of the workers, and beat down its teachers. The workers' organisations were destroyed, their property was confiscated, and their members slain. The master-class handsomely rewarded the priests with property confiscated from the organisations of the workers, and the new order became the foundation of the modern Christian Church, with its tenet of the sacredness of individual property and the reward of the expropriated poor in another world.

The story of the destruction of the old labour organisations, and the conversion of their faith and property to the use of the exploiting class and its priesthood, is that of one of the most amazing and blood-curdling periods of human history. The "Prince of Peace," who spoke of "Peace on Earth," could have had no conception of what was to follow from his mission. He did not foresee that his doctrine would be seized by those who laid the foundation of a Church in bloodshed, and the extermination of millions of ruthlessly slaughtered working-men and their families.

The economic awakening of labour—the only real danger that ever confronted a ruling robber class—was thus summarily crushed and set back for nearly 2000 years. Under the coarse and brutal rule of a conscienceless master-class, aided by the soporific influence of a gigantic superstition, the past 1900 years has been a darkened period of man's history. Under that rule, worker has been set against worker, nation against nation, and race against race, and while men have been talking and preaching of peace, they have cultivated the arts of war until at last Christmas as a celebration has become a mockery and a sham.

The falsification of the fundamental doctrine of the founder of Christianity has been followed by ages of stupendous falsehood, robbery, and trickery, until in our day when one speaks of peace it is natural to look out for war. Men speak of "Christian England," and "Holy Russia," and never think of the absurdity of such titles when applied to countries which are never at peace.

But the air is clearing, the clouds of ignorance and superstition are lifting. The workers as a class are once more awakening to the necessity of intelligent and concerted action on industrial lines. Religion is losing its narcotic power, patriotism and loyalty are failing, and the last attempt of the master-class to retain power is being made in the boy-scout movement by which it is hoped to breed and rear a race of permanent slaves.

The workers have won the right to speak, write, and vote, and they are pushing forward in their fight for the right to work and to own and enjoy their product. When that right is won, when they are industrially free, Christmas may be celebrated as one of time's most notable landmarks of working-class economic emancipation.

THE "WORKER" AND MILITARISM.

Sydney "Worker" becomes more interesting every issue. On the question of Militarism it now resembles the Irish lawyer, who, on being asked by a presiding magistrate which side he represented, replied, "both, your worship." At one time, the "Worker" used to allow a week or two to elapse before it contradicted itself, but now it has a little on both sides in each issue. While H. E. Boote is labouring in one column to show that the Conscription Act is a democratic affair which will place the plutocracy absolutely at the mercy of the workers, artist Claude Marquet illustrates the flogging of the Conscripts, and quotes the "Worker," which said 5/12/'12:—

> "The sons of working people are dragged into the glare of the police courts or thrashed unmercifully for some slight fault, but the sons of people who can afford to send them to the more expensive schools, are kept away from the suggestiveness of the Courts, and passed along for a milder beating by their teachers."

In the same issue Mr. Boote says:—

> "The war lust, once aroused, is apt to sweep away all sense of reason and justice and the workers themselves are as sensitive to it as anyone."

Yet Mr. Boote is supporting the Conscription Act, which is calculated to excite the war lust, and which is being administered, as Mr. Marquet shows, by men who "sweep away all sense of reason and justice" and who flog the boys of the working class.

In support of the Conscription Act, Mr. Boote says an army of Conscripts

> "Would be a salutary restraint on the warlike passions."

But a leader writer in another column said (5/12/'12):—

> "If Australia's citizen army is not to degenerate into something which labour can only contemplate with the feelings of Frankenstein, confronted by the monster of his own creation, no effort will have to be spared to prevent the traditions and methods of militarism from creeping into it."

The leader writer can see dangers which are unseen by Mr. Boote. He shows that the usual evils peculiar to militarism are creeping into the defence system of the Commonwealth. Caste lines are being drawn, and an antagonism of outlook between officers and the rank and file is growing up. The practice of flogging, so prevalent in European armies, is being introduced here and developed. Old world ideas are being introduced by old-world officers who are militarists to the finger tips, and there is danger of Australasia falling into the grip of the monster which the Labour Party has created and which Mr. Boote, who claims to be a Socialist, is defending.

The "International Socialist" feels a kindly interest in Mr. Boote, and it has pleasure in referring him to the "Workers" leader above quoted, which badly pounds the views set forth in the "Outlook" page. The following from an editorial in the "Review of Reviews" (1/1/1911), written by W. T. Stead, is also worth considering:—

"Nothing is more curious than the way in which the manhood of Europe contrives to live under two diametrically opposite regimes. Everything depends upon what coat and trousers a man wears. If he dresses as he pleases, he acts as he pleases, he votes as he pleases, he strikes as he pleases, no Government daring to make him obey its command. But the Government has the power to compel him to wear its uniform, and then the moment he changes his clothes he ceases to be a free citizen. He can do nothing that he pleases. He sinks at once into the position of a mere cog in the military machine. If he disobeys he is promptly shot. In the recent French strike the revolt against established law and order was quelled by compelling a large number of men who were free to strike when they wore their working clothes to wear military uniform, when they were bound to obey orders on penalty of death. The rights of man disappears when he dons the uniform of a soldier. The odd thing is that peace was secured in the French strike by superseding the liberty of the labourer as citizen by the compulsory obedience exacted by military law.

"Thus we see how one who may remain a Man in his working clothes must be a Scab in his soldier clothes."

A NOVEL NAVAL ADVERTISEMENT.

The Commonwealth Defence Department is advertising for smart active boys between 14½ and 16 years of age to join the "Royal Australian Navy." The advertisement, as it appears in the "Bulletin," is a fine specimen of the "walk into my parlour" kind of stuff which the carnivorous spider sets before the unsuspecting fly, and unless boys parents are alert and determined to get there first the naval people will lure many boys from home to waste their best years in a floating hell. At the outset the advertising agent sets out to describe the "right sort" of sea atmosphere, and quotes Hillaire Belloc, who writes:—

> "Of the complexity of the sea, and of how it is manifold, and of how it mixes up with a man and may Broaden or Perfect him."

To take a boy of 14½ years of age, and shut him up on a warship during the years when he is most fitted to learn things useful, to pound into him routine, drill, and discipline: to cultivate in him false ideas of loyalty, patriotism, religion, morality, and international relationships: to keep him from the society of civilians from whom he might imbibe ideas of citizenship, and then to say, as the press agent does, that such training "may Broaden or Perfect him" is undoubtedly the limit in presumption upon the gullibility of boys and their parents. Ah! but he says: "Listen to the same writer, Belloc, in praise of waves:—

"The long-haired wave, the graceful wave, the wave that breaks on an island a long way off, the sandy wave, the wave before, the wave that brings good tidings."

The "long-haired wave" is no doubt very beautiful, and should appeal very strongly to a certain long-eared species said to be very fond of thistles, but it fails to excite anyone who has ever been at sea when the "long haired" waves and the "graceful waves" are storming together like a lot of "long-haired" liberal women at an annual convention. Then things are decidedly unpleasant, and there are few waves of "good tidings" about.

The press agent says:—

> "Now Jack, Will, and Tom Cornstalk, who have these waves stirring in your young blood, do you realise that the establishment of the Royal Australian Navy means Opportunity. Opportunity to follow the sort of life you "long for."'

"Jack, Will, and Tom Cornstalk" are not likely to be caught with chaff of that sort. The sort of life they long for is not the sort of life experienced aboard a man-o'-war, where everything is decidedly unpleasant to the last degree. The "opportunity" offered the boys is an opportunity to waste their best years learning what are to them useless things at a good deal less wages than they can earn ashore. Willie Pumpkinhead or Tom Turniptop may be caught seizing the alleged "opportunity," but that many members of the "Cornstalk" family will do so is unthinkable.

"The working class in order to serve as an efficient instrument of capitalist production must be absolutely free. "Free," as Marx says, both from personal bondage and from the ties of property. Were the working men to be burdened with property the whole editice of capitalism would be impossible, for the commodity labour-power would then be absent from the market and the possession of the necessary and surplus value would then be united in the same person, which would extinguish all difference between them. Production of commodities would also be next to impossible were the working-men not free personally so as to be able to sell their labour-power to the highest bidder. Competition among the producers would then be impossible. For competition implies equality of opportunity, whereas under such conditions the opportunity of production would depend on the possession of working-men.

Besides production or abstention from production would then depend not on the choice of the capitalist but on the number of working men he possessed. He could not produce if he possessed none, and would be compelled to produce if he possessed them.—Boudin.

Anti-workingclass School Teachers.

Proletarian Pedagogues.

Teachers in their withered imaginations fancy themselves a wing of the social elite.

BY AMACK.

"Anti-working class" epitomises the attitude of the great majority of the school teachers in the social situation to-day. Our proletarian pedagogues are—in their own withered imaginations—a wing of the social elite; they have no relation to the great army of industrial toilers; they belong to another class than those do whose organisations are dubbed unions. What terrors this word *union* holds forth to them!

Imagine the loss of dignity, the loss of "social status" which would accrue to these intellectuals should they stoop to join a union, or should they deign to recognise a harmony of their interests with those of the manual workers! Can anyone stretch his imagination to such an absurd limit as to picture modern school teachers sunk in the slough of such an abhorrence as unionism! Ah! if there be such a heartless wretch surely his ideas will mollify when he considers their loss of "social status!" What would our educational system be like were it manned by an army of class-conscious workers instead of, as at present, by these counterfeits of society! Still, when one considers that these same school teachers are all the children of working-class parents, and then notes their pitiful struggle and vain pleadings to be identified with another class, and hears their whole vocal energies, directed towards defaming and slandering the fighting organisations of the industrial workers, it is hard to picture that they are the intellectual giants and indispensable factors they would have us believe; and their actions merely incite a flame of pity and scorn in the breasts of MEN.

Perhaps, to some extent, they may be excused for their assumption, since much of their volunteer importance and standard doubtless comes down as a heritage from the twilight of our capitalist system, when the educated formed an "aristocracy of intellect," whose members hobnobbed with and were the consorts of royalty.

But these sheeny days have passed never to return again under capitalism—and the educational sections of the working class, to quote Kautsky, "still fancy they are something better than workers, and they have developed into being the defenders of the capitalist system of the exploitation of the masses."

Glancing back through centuries of history, the fact comes home that the workers have been the lever which has lifted, ever on and upward, humanity from the lowest dpths of bondage to the position of to-day. Always, even through the musty days of chattel slavery, there have been those of the working class who prostituted their manhood by helping to squelch the militant section of their own class in the interests of their owners, and as a reward they were permitted to *think* they were of the same class as their masters. No one would condemn the poor creatures for their class treachery in those dark, ignorant days. Who could blame *them* for selling their souls in festered attempts to embrace—if only in imagination—the glories of their masters?

The everlasting shame of it is that much of this same soul-selling spirit permeates the 20th century, for the bauble of capitalist "society" still lures the clean-handed, clean-clothes workers to her lips, which, however, and the irony of it, they never touch.

The class-conscious workers have been right through the ages the force behind progression, and though every step upward has been soaked with their blood, and the conditions which all even the school teachers—enjoy have been won by the working class, still we find our school teachers to-day shivering lest they should be identified with this splendid force, shivering lest they should be identified with the class of their tyrant-fighting parents.

Did future generations have to depend for their working and living conditions, on the efforts of this section of the toiling stiffs, one shudders to think of the degradation to which they will have sunk. But there is hope for the future and for future generations in the fact that the old spirit of revolt—the jewel of progress still is echoed from the breasts of the manual workers.

"The mode of production in material life determines the general character of the social, political and spiritual processes of life. It is not the consciousness of men that determines their existence but, on the contrary, their social existence determines their consciousness. At a certain stage of their development, the material forces of production in society come in conflict with the existing relations of production, or what is but a legal expression of the same thing—with the property relations within which they had been at work before. From forms of development of the forces of production these relations turn into their fetters. Then comes the period of social revolution. With the change of the economic foundation the entire immense superstructure is more or less rapidly transformed." Marx.

National Library of Australia http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page12366772

Victimisation.

Hideous Persecution.

The struggle is not between nation and nation, it is between class and class.

BY F.J.R.

Mount Morgan, Queensland, the greatest gold and copper proposition in Australia, stands in an isolated position. It stands alone, employing 4000 men. What small mines that are in the vicinity are directly controlled by this rich company. Victimisation is a scientific weapon on this field. For years not a semblance of industrial organisation existed at this mine. Any attempt that was made in the direction of organisation was instantly stamped out. The result was that the conditions of work were abhorrent in the last degree. Not only this, but they were dangerous. A few short years ago Australia was shocked with a dreadful accident that happened on this field. The men were buried quietly and quickly, and nothing more was said. A short month after the first accident, another eight men were sacrificed. An inquiry was held. It was proved beyond all doubt that the miners knew of the dangers that confronted them. They knew months before that the great open stopes were swinging, and that the gaining of their daily bread was all a matter of hazards with life. They knew this full well; they heard the ground groaning and talking; yet they were powerless to protest. Seventeen men were sacrificed in two lots, besides the scores of minor accidents, before this greedy company deemed it necessary to replace by the open stope system of mining the square set system. Seventeen men were sacrificed. Walter Hall, Australia's great benefactor, who gave a million pounds to charity to absolve his soul, was the principal shareholder of this company. The men knew this accident was coming, but trusted that it wouldn't happen on their shift. What torture, what agony it is for men to work in places unsafe to life, can be better imagined than described. Yet such was the case. These men had no organisation to make an organised protest on their behalf. They were slaughtered. They sleep to-day in those quiet little cemeteries of Gympie and Mount Morgan, under beautiful tombstones. Those beautiful tombstones with the names of the sacrificed men inscribed on them, bear the testimony of the result of the brutal lash Victimisation.

Cobar, that hive of industry on the arid western plains of New South Wales, with its wonderful machinery—human ingenuity personified in a wonderful complex treatment plant—that stands to-day belching forth its dense volumes of sulphurous smoke day and night, seven days a week, in spite of the Holy Covenant of resting on the seventh day. This modern capitalist concern is entirely run on the latest American system. The general manager, works manager, underground manager, and first engineer, are all Americans. They use the most modern weapon of Capitalism to subject their slaves. They use the lash of victimisation. This is no mere hearsay.

Along with the secretary, vice-president, and one of the victimised men, the writer was delegated by the A.M.A. Cobar branch) to approach the manager on behalf of two unionists who were victimised. One was the miner who was victimised at Mount Lyell; the manager didn't forget to impress this fact upon the deputation. The manager never in one instance questioned the capabilities of the men as miners. The underground foreman went so far as to affirm that both men were competent miners. The general manager said they were dangerous; they caused discontent among their mates. Therefore they had to go. That was the end of the matter. He claimed the right to employ whom he liked, and would prefer to close the mine down in preference to employing these two men. Looking at the vice-president, he said, "You know this. When I first came on the mine I found a lot of such men as these, but they are all gone now, and these two men will have to go likewise. I don't want them: I won't employ them." They have gone. Neither are at present employed by the Great Cobar Copper Company. The A.M.A. knows all these facts. The executive knows every detail. The secretary and vice-president were present at the interview. These men are victimised: others have gone, to the full knowledge of executive officers, before. They have been victimised, their only crime being the active part they played in trying to waken this dull, dead mass of wage slaves. To-day there is not one man on the line of lode who is not a member of the union. The management will sack any man who refuses to join a union. He himself at every union social states that he believes in unionism, "the right kind of unionism." It helps in the organisation of his huge concern. The A.M.A. when he was short of wage slaves, recruited labor for him. Advertised for them, advised men to come to the field. These men are victimised, in spite of the fact that the Parliamentary representative of this district is a Labor man: is a miner. ....

In spite of the fact that they are represented in the Federal House of Parliament by a Labor man. They are victimised in spite of everything. The reason they are victimised is because, as the manager put it, "they are a menace to the management of this industry." At Cobar the conditions of work, the conditions of living are damnable, as such they will continue to be, for upon the slightest sign of any movement being observed to alter them, the movers are instantly wiped out by the effective weapon of victimisation.

Three thousand coal miners working in the southern district are to-day confronted with this same spectre. Victimisation; victimisation is written clearly across the industrial sky. The question of the hour is are we going to allow a lodge secretary to be victimised?

This trouble is on all fours with the Lithgow trouble. It is not a question of wages, of time worked, or of better conditions generally. It is simply a question: Is a prominent unionists to be victimised because he is secretary of a miners' lodge? Because of the part he plays in the industrial and political movement.

The secretary has been sacked. In one way and another other lodge secretaries in the district have been told that it will be to their own interests if they take a lesson from this secretary's dismissal. If the miners' organiation leave this question where it is: if they allow this lodge secretary to be dismissed for this heinous crime, the question arises: Where will this matter end? Will it end with another Mount Morgan, another Mount Lyell. Coal mines are prone to blow up any time. Remember Bulli. Remember Mount Kembla. In every mining disaster it is always the workers that perish. It is always workingmen's wives and children that suffer. Profit stands higher than flesh and blood; that is, human flesh and blood. Horse flesh is dear: many wheelers on the South Coast know this, to their cost. The workers of the South Coast would do well to ponder over all these dreadful disasters, and ask themselves if it would not be better to perfect their industrial organisations, and prevent a repetition of such bloody sacrifices. For it is only by unionism that better conditions of working can be obtained. This is true in every industry. Better have safer conditions of working than to give those good, kind-hearted, dividend-seeking christians a chance of slobbering their sickly piety and their meek charitableness upon your wives and children by giving "at homes," society balls, and other receptions in aid of the poor and distressed wives and families of the men killed in a coal mining disaster. Damn their charity; you don't want it. Fight for your rights. Fight to maintain the rights that have been handed down to you by those brave men of the past.

If this unionist is let down, the master class will realise the spineless body of men you are, and they will deal with you in the manner they think best for themselves.

If he is not to be let down. If you intend to fight, the clarion call of unionism should be made from end to end of Australia until "The fiery mountains answer each other:
Their thunderings are echoed from zone to zone;
The tempestuous oceans awake one another,
And the icerocks are shaken round winter's throne."

Make the call: it is worth it. Show to the employing class that this murderous weapon is not to be wielded on the backs of the men whom you delegate as your representatives in the great movement of the world's working class. ..

Suitable Employment for Women.

"Socialists do not care to heighten the competition in the economic field; it is severe enough already. What they desire is not free competition among the sexes, but special vocations for the sexes. Women are so constituted that certain employments are injurious to them.

What we want is suitable employment for women, and reward according to results. This is truly utopian under the present system. That women should compete with men, in utter regard of physiological facts, and be obliged to accept less pay for equal services rendered, is part and parcel of our competitive system. But under socialism women may become public functionaries on an equal footing with men. This would secure to them complete emancipation and independence. Economic independence of all independence and freedom. Such liberty would destroy in toto the matrimonial market. Marriage would cease to be a mere institution for the support of women.

By securing to woman the opportunity of earning her own living, by honourable, pleasant and fitting employment, you would make of husband and wife loving equals.

Socialists, however, do not expect all women, or even a majority, to earn their own living. What they want is to endow women with the potentiality of economic independence of man. This power, which may be realised at any time, would check much of the overbearingness and despotism often manifested by the "lords of creation."

Economic equality between husband and wife would work a transformation in the family. The advantages which socialism would bring to women are almost inestimable. Surely socialism would make for the elevation of woman.—Ferri.

Push The INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST. It will afford you satisfaction and delight to see the result.

Against Conscription.

Defence Department Bluff Exposed.

The Freedom League tackles Senator Pearce and Prime Minister Fisher.

The following correspondence has recently taken place with the Prime Minister. This is the only occasion on which any statements made by the Australian Freedom League have been questioned.

JOHN P. FLETCHER.
Box 961, Melbourne.

(Copies.)

Resolution passed at the Inaugural Meeting of the Victorian Council of the Australian Freedom League.

That this meeting of the Victorian Council of the Australian Freedom League urges upon the Federal Parliament the necessity of abolishing the Compulsory Clauses of the Commonwealth Defence Acts. It calls attention to the fact that conscription is opposed to civil liberty, and that under the Australian Defence Acts power is given to the Military Board to control education under the Junior Cadet Regulations; to coerce conscience; to prevent public discussion on conditions and orders under which civilians are compelled to serve; and that a military test is imposed for all Commonwealth appointments. The meeting pledges itself to use every endeavour to maintain the objects of the League and to secure for it public support.

Melbourne,
8th September, 1912.

Commonwealth of Australia
Prime Minister

Melbourne
26th September, 1912

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 25th inst., transmitting copy of a resolution passed at a recent meeting of the Victorian Council of the Australian Freedom League, I have the honour, by direction, to point out, in connection with this resolution, that to call the Universal Military Training Scheme Conscription is a misuse of words. Under the Australian Scheme, the members retain their full rights of citizenship; whereas, under Conscription, the members of the forces cease to be citizens and become permanent soldiers.

In connection with the statement that under the Defence Act power is given to the Military Board to control education under the Junior Cadet Regulations, the Minister of Defence advises that this shows either gross ignorance of the relationship between the Education Departments and the Junior Cadet System, or else a wilful misrepresentation of facts: furthermore, that there is nothing in the Defence Act to Prevent, or in any way interfere with public discussion on the conditions, etc., under which civilians serve.

I have the honor to be, etc.

M. L. SHEPHARD,
Secretary.

Mr. Fletcher,
Sec. A. F. L.

Melbourne, 24th Oct., 1912.

To the Rt. Hon. Andrew Fisher,
Parliament House,
Melbourne.

Sir, I am in receipt of your letter of the 26th ult., referring to a resolution passed by the Victorian Council of the Australian Freedom League.

I have gone carefully into the points raised by your letter, but can as yet see no way of altering the terms of the resolution.

1. The dictionary definition of the word "conscription" is "compulsory enrolment for naval or military service; the obtaining recruits by compulsion." As under the Australian scheme of compulsory training by Regulation 15, "Members of the Senior Cadet units shall at all times when on duty or in uniform be subject to military law," and as in the instruction (p. 28) it is stated that "Details of military offences and punishments are contained in the Defence Act and Commonwealth Military Regulations and Standing Orders," I assume that the compulsory trainee is not under civil law but under military law in everything relating to his military duties. The difference from Continental conscription seems to be in the periods of service.

2. With regard to the reference to the influence of the Military Board on our educational institutions the Junior Cadet Regulations (p 4) say that the Junior Cadets must receive instruction daily at an approved centre and to the satisfaction of the District Commandant. Under Regulation 69 the Military Board may, by advertisement or otherwise, declare the training of any school to be in its opinion not "sufficient," and will compel the boys to receive the daily instruction elsewhere. As it is very unlikely that a private school can be successful, from which the boys are removed for a certain time each day for Junior Cadet Training, and for a public schoolmaster, who objects to assisting the military organisation being able to retain his position, the Military Board is given an influence over the appointment of schoolmasters and over Private Schools, which is much like control. The Australian Freedom League objects to the Military Board having the power to publicly "Black List" all these schools where there are Anti-militarist Head Masters.

3. The Military Regulations seem to be very explicit on the matter of influencing public discussion on the conditions under which persons are compelled to serve. Standing Orders 115 and 116 read: "115—Officers and soldiers are forbidden to publish or communicate to the press any information, without special authority, either directly or indirectly. They will be held responsible for all statements contained in communications to their friends which may subsequently be published in the press." "116—They are not to attempt to raise a discussion in public about orders, regulations or instructions issued by their superiors."

And I would call your attention to the report in the Melbourne "Age" of May 31st last, where it is stated that a proposed meeting called to form a "Cadet Officers' Association and for the statement of their grievances" was prevented by "Headquarters" who directed that the meeting must not take place. (Sgd.) John P. Fletcher.

Copy of letter received from Prime Minister
6th November, 1912.

With reference to your letter of the 24th October, I have the honour, by direction, to inform you that it is not desired by the Minister for Defence to make any comment thereon, further than that with respect to the concluding paragraph, nothing is known in the Department of Defence of any such proposal as that mentioned.

M. L. SHEPHERD,
Secretary.

The Socialist Postbag.

I take issue with you on the necessity of leaders. Right down the centuries we have had leaders in every avenue of thought and action Religious, Social, Political, and Industrial. Thus it would appear plain that the human race in its present state of revolution cannot get on without leaders, but we would do better if we had not so many "blind followers." That some leaders can do an incalculable amount of harm to any movement I am quite prepared to admit, for so much depends upon the "spirit" of the leader, whether he or she is endowed with the right qualities of leadership—love, wisdom, unselfishness, the power to sacrifice self in the service of God and humanity. Followers who are "led" by the right spirit to "live" and "act" as such a leader will not be far wrong. . . . . After burning the midnight oil over Protection, Freetrade, Single Tax, and Socialism which I accept as the highest conception of social economy—I have long since come to the conclusion that the ultimate emancipation of the race really depends upon individual perfection. And if each of us will only set about reforming ourselves—"Man know thyself" there might soon be no other chap to reform. Anyway, when the race is led by men and women made perfect in love, wisdom, and self-sacrificing service, then and then only will we consummate peace on earth and good-will among all men. This consummation is as surely written and impressed in the souls and thoughts of men, and just as capable of outward manifestation as any state we have so far passed through.

Ever for Truth and Freedom,
FREDERICK ALLMAN.

Violet Town, Vic.
Dec. 10, 1912.

Dear Comrade, I am so pleased with the last number of the "International Socialist" that I am enclosing a trifle to be expended in sending copies to the members of the Labour Party in the Federal House, with the article describing the persecution of the lad in Western Australia marked for their attentive perusal. I must also mention the pleasure with which I read the article on Signed Articles. It seems to me to be true idealistic Socialism—we must have some ideals in the movement—and I was glad to note the tolerance of its tone. We must have differences of opinion, but the basis of Socialism is fixed, and we should all unite on it, and work steadfastly, leaving the non-essentials alone for the present. At any rate, though we may differ as to methods to be employed to attain our end, we should give up bickering (quarrelling is too good a name for it) and abuse. I am glad to see that some of the good comrades of the old Melbourne party (to which, by the way, I beiong) find it possible to attend the meetings of the other party and address them. Mind, I am as militant as ever as regards the enemy, but not towards my friends.

Yours ever in the cause,
DR. J. B. T.

According to the report of the Board of Commerce of the House of Representatives in America, it appears that two men, Pierpont Morgan and J. D. Rockefeller, control roughly, £7,430,000,000 of capital in railroad, mining, shipping and other industrial enterprises. This enormous sum represents about 36 per cent of the trade of the United States. From the Board's investigations it appears that a regiment of financial officers (mostly millionaire directors) circulate and administer this capital with a view to controlling industry as far as possible for their profit.—AJAX.

National Library of Australia http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page12366773

Melbourne Notes.

BY J. R. WILSON.

The lockout at Mitchell's Cement Works at Burnley-street, is at the moment of writing still in progress, the twenty-second week of the conflict having been reached.

To the credit of the locked-out men (many with families) it must be said, they have to use a time-worn expression stuck to their guns, despite the fact that the management have endeavoured to get the men to return and scab.

Not merely has pressure been brought to bear on the men themselves, but even their wives have been appealed to to influence them to return. All efforts to arrange a surrender of the position has so far failed, and the management are now compelled to admit that they have only been able to secure thirteen scabs.

As the struggle seems to be nearing a close, and victory for the locked-out men appears within reach, J. T. Packer, the scab Napoleon, does not loom so large in the public eye, nevertheless the men are determined not to budge, and it is hoped by all friends of labour victory will crown their efforts.

An important factor in preventing the company from securing scab labour has been the action of the U.L.U. in placing pickets at the Independent Workers Federation. The writer, being informed by one of the pickets that they had influenced some hundreds of men ignorant of the purpose for which the Independent Labour Bureau exists, from having any dealings with J. T. Packer and those associated with him.

LABOUR AND IMMIGRATION.

On several occasions labourites have indignantly denied that the Federal Labour Government, or any of the State Labour Governments, avhe been responsible for the bringing of people from foreign parts to Australia by misrepresenting labour conditions withing the colony.

This, we are assured, being solely the work of the Liberal Party.

However, the truth is beginning to leak out, and the more intelligent supporters of this alleged Labour party are beginning to realise they have been fooled, and that since the advent of a Labour Government to power in the Federal House, as well as in the State Parliaments of N.S. Wales and West Australia, more immigrants have entered the colony from the beginning of the year to the end of October than during the corresponding period of last year. According to the "Age" of 11/12/12, no less than 136,435 persons have landed in the Commonwealth, these being distributed as follows:...New South Wales, 42,455; Victoria, 9,479; Queensland, 5,177; South Australia, 1,901; West Australia, 6,169. Note that out of the three States which top the list two of them have Labour Governments. Further reference to immigration in the "Age" shows that not in any previous year have so many assisted immigrants arrived in N.S. Wales as has been the case during the present year. In 1908 the number was 3,000, but when the month of December is concluded this year's total will have advanced to, approximately, 15,000 men, women, and children.

Truly, no other political party has done, or is doing, so much in the interests of Australian exploiters.

Labour supporters will find this out in due time to their cost, as the keener the competition amongst the workers for the jobs offering, the quicker will wages, which represent the subsistence of all wage-earners, tend to bed-rock level. Moreover, when a panic, or, rather, an industrial depression, sets in, full advantage will be taken by the master-class of the glut on the labor market to lengthen the hours of labour, and thereby increase their surplus values.

BREWERY TRADE WAGES.

The conference of representatives of employers and employees in the brewery trade was concluded last week in the chambers of the President of the Arbitration Court. The Registrar announced that the parties had arrived at a settlement on all points in the log submitted by the Federated Liquor Trades Employees' Union of Australia.

The instrument which will be drawn up will provide, inter alia, for wages as follows:

General hands, £2 14s. a week; drivers of motor waggons carrying less than three tons, £2 17s.; drivers of waggons of greater capacity, £3; boys, 16 years of age, 17s. 6d. per week; of 17 years, £1 2s. 6d.; of 18 years, £1 7s. 6d.; of 19 years, £1 12s. 6d.; of 20 years, £2 2s. a week.

In engaging men there is to be no discrimination between unionists and non-unionists. The wages, it was pointed out, are a general increase on Victorian wages boards rates. Queensland payments will be subject to a sliding scale operating over three years.

The above, also gleaned from the "Age" of 11/12/12, ought to furnish interesting reading for all members particularly of the Trades Hall Council, as it is only a few months ago that there was a likelihood of trouble with a section of the timber industry on account of a certain employer engaging non-union labor. What action the great and militant Trades Hall Council will take will be worth noting. On the one hand they are supposed to be ever ready for war when bona-fide unionists are brushed aside and non-unionists take their place; on the other, they are as a council firm believers in Arbitration, and certain leading lights have even openly boasted that the Industrial Disputes Committee of the Trades Hall have justified there existence by settling more strikes than any other body. The latter, no Socialist will deny, indeed we would only add, settled them to the exploiters' advantage.

So there is to be no discrimination between unionists and non-unionists, according to the decision of the Arbitration Court, both are to compose one happy family, no more election cries of preference to unionists, because in future scabs and non-unionists are to be placed on an equal footing with men and unionists. Funny, isn't it?

THEORY OF VALUE.

Dear Comrade,—You Socialists claim that the value of all commodities is determined by the socially necessary labour-time contained in them. Suppose the farmers of North America produce 35 bushels of wheat per acre. The farmers of Australia porduce 10 bushels of wheat per acre, using the same amount of labour-time, with the same machinery. Now seeing that the same amount of labour-time is crystalised in the 10 bushels per acre of Australia as in the 35 bushels of North America, would not the 10 bushels of Australia equal in value the 35 of North America. If not, what becomes of your theory of value? Hoping for an early explanation.

Yours truly,
"ANABRUTI."

"The International Socialist."

As certain untruthful statements are being published and circulated to damage the INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST, one of which is to the effect that the income from the paper is decreasing, I supmit the follorwing figures for perusal by those who are interested in the welfare of the paper.

Total Income from Sales of Paper, Subscriptions, and Agents during the last quarter of H. E. Holland's editorship, Feb. 24, to May 26, 1912, £85 11s. 2d., weekly average, £6 11s. 8d.

Total Income from Sales of Paper, Subscriptions, and Agents during last quarter, Sept. 7, to Dec. 7., £95 5s. 11d., weekly average, £7 6s. 7d., or an increase of 12 per cent.

O. W. JORGENSEN,
Manager.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

National Executive.

A meeting of the Administrative Council was held on Sat. Dec. 14, at 115 Goulburn-St., Sydney.

Delegates present: Slade, Trustee, Jorgensen, Manager, Winspear, Treasurer, Nelson, Balmain, Carney, Newtown, Mrs. Kenna, and F. Riley, Sydney, and Denford, Acting Gen. Sec.

Com. Slade elected Chairman.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and cofirmed.

Correspondence was read from R. Welsh enclosing an account for printing.

Resolved that the Acting Secretary and Treasurer interview Mr. Welsh re the account, and also that branches be written to regarding the matter.

The International Socialist Club wrote granting the Administrative Council 25s. a week for 20 weeks for propaganda purposes.

Resolved that the Club be written to thanking the members for their assistance.

Newtown Branch wrote authorising Comrade Carney to act as delegate on the A. Council.

The Council then adjourned.

The General Secretary wishes to hear from Comrades who will help to arrange propaganda meetings in centres outside of Sydney. If any Comrade can arrange meetings, the General Secretary will arrange to send speakers.

Address all communications to
H. L. DENFORD,
8 Stephen's Buildings, Windmill-St.
Millers Point, Sydney

Sydney.

The branch has continued its active propaganda work during the week. At the General Meeting, held at Queen's Hall on Thursday night, a strong resolution was carried in favour of the release of Lithgow Strike prisoner W. G. Hatton, who is still in a N.S. Wales Labour Government's bastile. A demonstration is to be held in Sydney Domain next Sunday to strengthen the hands of the Release Committee of Sydney. George Waite, I.W.W. Club, has called a meeting of those interested for Friday evening, at the Trades Hall, when the matter will be fully discussed. Vigorous action should be taken to secure Hatton's release before the holidays.

On Sunday, a good meeting was held in the Domain, Mandeno, chairman. Mandeno Whitmore, Jones, Brown, and Slade delivered stirring speeches, which were attentively listened to.

In the evening, large meetings were held at Park and Market streets, the message of Socialism being delivered by Mandeno, Slade, Brown, Condren, Gordon, Whitmore, and Glecher, all of whom were in good spirit and eager to give to others the grand truths which they have to deliver. The audiences are increasing, the interest is increasing, the earnestness of the speakers is increasing, and the sales of Socialist literature are increasing.

Broken Hill.

In Broken Hill, as in every other city where the worker is separated from the instruments of production and distribution, the class struggle is apparent. Wherever the class struggle is apparent, a socialist movement ought to exist to give conscious direction to the action of the workers in that struggle. The Socialist movement upon the Hill is directing the workers to the social revolution. We are attempting to educate the workers upon class-conscious lines. With what success are our efforts being attended? A large proportion of the population, although not a majority, are anti-conscription. That in itself is something. Every superstition killed is an enemy's gun spiked. If we kill the lie of patriotism we have cleared so much more of the road for action. The cry of "Give the Labour Party a Chance" is becoming dimmer and dimmer. It is only a matter of time when it shall be relegated to the museum of antiquities. The gaoling of striking workmen, Conscription Acts, and Coronation are providing splendid object lessons for the working class. The workers here use gelignite to break up ore, and we, the "International Socialist" to break up the foundations of their superstitions. We hold three outdoor meetings weekly, as well as the usual weekly lecture in the rooms. Comrade Rancie was the lecturer last Sunday. He spoke of "Evolution and Revolution," and handled the subject capably. The literature department has been thoroughly reorganised by Comrade O'Reilly, our energetic literature secretary, and his capable assistant, W. J. Travers. Visitors to the Hill should make a point of interviewing either of these two comrades, who never tire of exchanging litrature or papers for cash. The pen is mightier than the sword, and the deed is mightier than the word. Comrades all to action.

At the last meeting of the Party the following resolutions were carried:

1. "That this meeting of the Barrier Branch of the Australasian Socialist Party views with extreme indignation the action of the "scabs" and armed "thugs" of Waihi, backed up by the ruling class of New Zealand and supported by the capitalist press in murdering fellow-worker Evans. It condemns the farcical coronial inquiry into the death, deplores cross-questioning by suggestion, and denounces the scab president as an impostor. Furthermore, this meeting calls upon all class-conscious workers throughout Australasia to demand a full inquiry into the lawless action of the scabs in making a rush upon and illegally taking the Trades Hall, in their unwarranted attacks upon strikers, and their dastardly outrages and threats upon the women and children of Waihi."

2. "That this meeting of the Barrier Branch of the A.S.P., whilst regretting the deep loss to Socialism on the Barrier caused by the resignation of Comrade Robert Hogg from the editorship of the "Barrier Daily Truth," owing to family reasons and climatic conditions, extends to him its best wishes and hopes that he will soon be wielding the pen again for the cause under more congenial climatic conditions, and finds consolation in the fact that Broken Hill's loss will be the gain of some other town.

Yours for the revolution,
GEORGE BROWN,
Press Correspondent.

Leichhardt-Annandale.

A meeting was held here on Saturday night, at which Young and Slade spoke.

Most of those who attended were inclined to listen to the addresses, but a few nondescripts, who had "looked upon the wine when it was red in the cup," kept up a fire of raucous interjections. An evangelist took the stand in opposition, and said that the British empire is founded on the word of God, a profound remark which seemed to soak into the beer-soddened brains of the interjecting drunks and take their breath away. It was either too deep and unfathomable for them, or they love to hear the sort of stuff that a cave-dweller of the stone age might be stunned with. The more intelligent ones had to content themselve with buying literature.

Balmain.

A good meeting was held at Rozelle on Saturdey night, Griffin in the chair, and Talbot and Sloan speakers.

At Balmain on Sanday night, Nelson chair, Talbot and Griffin delivered addresses and received a good hearing.

A Social will be held at the Oddfellows Hall, Balmain, on Tuesday, Dec. 31.

Tickets 1s. 6d. Ladies free. From 8 p.m. till 2 a.m. Refreshments provided.

Newtown.

At Newtown Bridge on Sat. night, Comrades Foran and Chambers spoke at some length to a good gathering. Our speakers succeded in their oral exposition of Socialist theories and facts despite the fact that a band played long and loud in close proximity to them. Newtown workers seem as eager as ever to hear the truth concerning the present economic confusion, and to consider the necessity for and the possibility of the realisation of revolutionary ideals. The meeting was comparatively tranquil, and the interjections were mostly of a logical character. Highly satisfactory sales of literature were reported by the literature secretary.

On Sunday night an enthusiastic meeting was held here when Comrade Jones and his chairman dealt with the great questions of working class import in their usual impressive manner. Comrade Jones was warmly applauded at the conclusion of his address.

International Socialist Club.

The next Monthly Meeting of the above Club will be held on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 11 a.m.

K. G. DRUHMEL, Secy.

Sydney Propaganda Fixtures.

SATURDAY.

Rozelle—M. Moore, Griffin Talbot.
Leichhardt—Young, Slade.
Newtown—Duffield, Walsh, Kilburn.
Bathurst-St., Gordon, Mandeno, Whitmore.

SUNDAY.

Afternoon: Domain, Condren, Mandeno Whitmore, Glecher.
Evening: arket-St., Gordon, Janes, Slade.
Balmain—C. Moore, Talbot, Nelson.
Newtown—Duffield, Walsh, Kilburn.

Press and Maintenance Fund.

Already acknowledged, £33 7s. 4d. Collected at Club Social 5s 11d, J. McGuinness, Q'land. 2s, Balmain subsidy 1s. Total £33 19s. 3d

Socialist Publishing and Jobbing Plant.

Amount previously acknowledged £21 7s. 6d; E. Raps, San Francisco, 12s. 6d. Total £25.

Anti-Militarist Postcards,

1st. Series printed by the Marxian Press.

Set of Four 3d. Per doz 9d. Larger Quantities at 6d. per doz.

Cash must accompany all orders.

International Socialist Club,

274 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Open daily for Members and Visitors from other parts, from 11 a.m. till 11 p.m.

Best Socialist Library in the Commonwealth.
5s. per Quarter.
K. G. DRUHMEL, Secretary.

Berrier Branch,

Australasian Socialist Party.

Sulphide Street, Broken Hill.

Lectures held at the Party rooms every Sunday evening. General meeting every alternate Sunday at 10 a. m. Speakers' Class every Sunday alternatively at 10.30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Outdoor propaganda meetings every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., and every Sunday at 7 p.m., at the corner of Sulphide and Argent streets. Visitors to Broken Hill will be welcomed at any time. The INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST and other literature obtainable from the Literature Secretary.

Sydney Branch,

Australasian Socialist Party.

Meetings of the above branch are held at Queen's Hall every alternate Thursday, at 7.45 p.m.

Propaganda meetings held every Saturday evening at corner of Bathurst and George Streets, Sunday afternoon, Domain, Sunday evening, Market and Park Streets at 7.30 p.m.

CECIL WHITMORE, Secretary,
115 Goulburn Street, Sydney.

Perth Branch.

Australasian Socialist Party,

Literary Institute, Hay Street.

Lectures are held at the Institute every Sunday evening at 8 p.m. Propaganda meetings held every Friday evening at the Railway Station at 8 p.m., Sunday afternoon at Esplanade at 3 p.m. Large quantities of Socialist Literature for sale at all meetings.—Thos. GIBSON, Sec. and Librarian,
Stirling-St., Perth.

Melbourne Branch

Australasian Socialist Party,

47 Victoria Street, Melbourne.

Lectures held at above address every Sunday evening at 7.30. Meetings at Smith-St., Fitzroy, and Markets, South Melbourne, every Friday evening.

Members' Dance held every Saturday, commence at 8 p. m.

J. R. WILSON, Secy.

"The Crime of Conscription"

BY H. E. HOLLAND.

Per dozen, 1s.

Order from the Manager, 115 Goulburn-street, Sydney.

JOB PRINTING. . .

TRY THE MARXIAN PRESS.
115 GOULBURN STREET, SYDNEY.
For Job Printing of Every Description at Shortest Notice. Estimates Free.

Printed and published by Henry Edmund Holland, for the Australasian Socialist Party, at 115 Goulburn-street, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

National Library of Australia http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page12366774